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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, July 3rd, 1900.

In view of the important statement made
in our telegram yesterday that the Boxers
had made preparations for a general rising
in September next, when they calculated on
numbering some eight million adherents,
including the regular troops, and that the
Peking-tu affair precipitated matters unduly,
it is curious to read in a Washington des-
patch to the *Times* on the 1st of last month
that it was hinted in diplomatic circles in
Washington that the sudden increase ob-
served in the activity of the Boxers was
part of a well-conceived plan by one of the
great European Powers to secure a permanent
lodgment in Peking and seize a position,
giving it full control of the Peiho river.

The opinion was also held, it appears, that
the plan proved abortive owing to the alert-
ness of the other European Powers, but
particularly to the readiness of Mr. CONGER
and Rear-Admiral KIRKBY, which at once
gave the movement an international aspect
and so tended to prevent the nation con-
cerned from aggravating itself at the ex-
pense of the interests of the other nations.
It was thought that the excitement would
soon abate and the rioters vanish away;
so much so that when Mr. CONGER, the
United States Minister in Peking, cabled
that the arrival of the guards for the
Legations had improved the situation,
and that Peking was much quieter, though
the Boxers were still active in the neigh-
bourhood, his words carried conviction
with them. The scene is indeed a
different one now from what might be
imagined from the pictures which the
Ministers drew for their home govern-

ments. The persistent under-rating of the
strength of the Boxers has brought its
Nemesis. Of the conduct of the Ministers
in persisting in remaining at Peking and
throwing the responsibility for their safety
on the Imperial Government, it may cer-
tainly be said that it is brave, but in the
present circumstances it is foolhardy. If
Prince Tuan is at the head of affairs now
—probably actual Emperor, the telegram
says—there is no power likely to restrain the
Manchu-anti-foreign party. Even the Em-
press Dowager with her pretended Boxer-sup-
pressing edict has vanished, and a worse
enemy to foreigners has taken her place. When
she threw away the reins of power we do not
know, and it is therefore impossible to say
whether it was under her rule or that of
Prince Tuan that the unfortunate Baron
von Ketteler, once, as we show elsewhere,
a familiar figure in Canton, met with his
death at the hands of the Chinese troops.
It matters little, however, who is directly
responsible for the murder; all the mem-
bers of the palace clique are tared with the
same brush, and all must pay for the acts of
their party. This they will soon commence
to do. Already they have against them
14,000 troops provided with an ample
supply of guns of an excellent quality. Our
new Indian troops cannot well reach Taku
before the beginning of August. But
the force before which Admiral SEYMOUR's
2,000 could give way will very shortly
be confronted with a far more numerous and a
better equipped force, who, we may be sure,
will press on with all the haste possible.
The situation at Peking is unfortunately so
grave that we cannot feel certain, until the
allies reach the city, that they will not be too
late; for the story that the Ministers had
consented to leave under Chinese escort seems
to be disposed of by the news of their de-
claration that they will remain at their post.
This sacrifice to a principle, though heroic,
may in the worst event deal a heavy blow to
the Governments whose representatives they
are. But we will hope that their courage
will impress even the anti-foreign fanatics
who follow Prince Tuan's lead.

While engaged in building operations yester-
day at the Naval Yard, a Chinese workman fell
off a scaffolding on to his head. Death was
instantaneous.

The Return of Visitors to the City Hall
Library and Museum for the week ending 1st
July shows that the former institution was visit-
ed by 343 non-Chinese and 123 Chinese, the
latter by 186 non-Chinese and 143 Chinese.

In the 48 hours preceding noon yesterday
there were reported 20 fresh cases of plague and
18 deaths in the colony. During last week
there were 92 cases of plague (63 in Victoria)
and 93 deaths. Of other diseases there was only
a case of enteric fever, which ended fatally.

A Chinaman who had had a drop too much
lay down in a track on the Praya on Sunday
night and went asleep. He was awakened by
rolling off the truck and falling heavily to the
ground. He sustained injuries which necessi-
tated his being taken to the Hospital.

Mr. D. M. Crawford, of Messrs. Lane, Craw-
ford and Co., Hongkong, who was on the
Empress of India on his way to Japan, fell
down the hold of the tender to the Empress on
Saturday night at Shanghai, and was carried
senseless to the Hospital. The latest account
we are pleased to say, are to the effect that
he is doing well.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. G. J. W. King offered
for competition at the office of the Public
Works department two lots of Crown Land.
The first lot—Lot No. 322, situated at Shau-
kiwan—was bought by Chinaman for \$450, the
upset being \$273. The second lot—Garden lot,
situate in Peak Road—was sold to Mr. H.
Humphreys for \$20 above the upset, the latter
being \$181.

The pamphlet "Mountings of the Naval Guns
and their subsequent use with the Ladysmith
Relief Column" will be ready at the end of this
week. The coloured maps, six in all, and the
eight illustrations, have necessarily taken much
time to lithograph. The book will be on sale
next Monday at the local booksellers or may be
ordered in advance at the office of the *Daily
Press*.

At the Harbour Office yesterday, before Mr.
Basil Taylor, Stephen Smith and Henry Foster,
firemen on board the steamer *Draycorth*, were
charged with disobeying the lawful commands
of the master, Captain S. Fowler, and also with
being drunk and incapable at Moi on the 22nd
ult. At 5 p.m. on that date the defendants
went after drink and assaulted the Chinese
steward. They refused duty and had continued
to refuse duty since. They were each
sentenced to 14 days hard labour (or until the
ship sails) and forfeited 40 days' pay.

At the Magistracy yesterday a barker named
Sui Hung was charged with cutting and
wounding another barker named Chik Tin.
The complainant said he and the defendant
were employed at a barker's shop at 29, Wing
Kat street. Between seven and eight o'clock
on the morning of the 25th ult. he was shaving
a customer, and the defendant and another
assistant were at leisure. A customer came in
and he told the defendant to shave him. The
defendant objected. They then argued, and the
defendant struck him with a razor, inflicting a
serious wound in the side. He had been in the
hospital ever since. Another assistant corroborated
and the defendant, who had nothing to say, was sentenced to six months' hard labour.
They ultimately rescued a woman from No.
6. One of her legs was broken, and she was
sent to the Hospital. At No. 8 three dead
bodies were recovered later on—two boys (one
eight and the other nine) and a young man 20
years of age. Two men and a woman were in
the same house, and their bodies were recovered
later on.

The following appointment has been made at
the Admiralty—Commander F. C. A. Ogilvy
to the *Terrible*, to date May 29th.

The *Iphigenia*, cruiser, Captain H. M. Duding-
ton, was paid off at Portsmouth on 8th inst.
into the "B" Division of the Fleet Reserve.

It is announced from Washington that army
orders have been issued ordering the despatch
of military attachés at Peking to Tokyo.

Baron and Madame de Kuster arrived at
Singapore from home by the *Tonkin* on the
25th ult. The Baron has assumed duties as
Russian Consul at Singapore.

The *Kobe Chronicle* reports that our Governor
Sir H. Blaikie delivered a lecture on "Moral
Science and Chinese Affairs" at the Shizuka
Middle School on the 19th inst. He left
Shizuka for Kyoto the same day.

The troubles in China seem to have affected
Foyong. Nowa is published about a junk
conveying a large quantity of arms and
ammunition to a place on the coast in the neighbourhood
of Taku, and about symptoms of
concerned disturbance in the neighbourhood of
Kagi. The Authorities are said to be acting
vigorously.

The Chinese Minister to the United States,
Wu, Ting Fong, in an address which he delivered
at the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania,
strongly advised women physicians to go to China,
where he assured them that anyone who had sufficient skill and knowledge
in the art of healing was freely allowed to practice,
irrespective of nationality, sex, or creed.

The Dutch cruiser *Holland*, which arrived in
the harbour on Sunday, was built at Amsterdam
in 1896 at a cost of £225,760. Her displacement
is 3,900 tons, her draught 17 ft. 8 in., and
her deck armour 2 in. thick. Her armament
consists of two 5.9 quick-fires, six 47 guns,
four 23, eight 14, four muzzle-loaders; and she has
four torpedo-tubes. Her speed was 10.6
knots on her trial trip.

A new crew has been detailed at Daroupiot
to recommission Her Majesty's gunboat *Esk*
on the China Station. The *Esk* has already
been twenty years in China, and her machinery
is reported to be in fairly good condition. Her
hull, however, is much worn, and in need of extensive
repairs, and this is to be done by private
contract at Shanghai. The new crew for the
Esk took passage to China in the cruiser
Argonaut.

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four torpedo-tubes. Her speed was 10.6
knots on her trial trip.

Baron von Ketteler, the German Minister,
was reported murdered by the Chinese troops
on the 13th ult., came out to China in 1880 and
became a student interpreter in 1881. After-
wards he was interpreter at Canton and in 1880
distinguished himself, in company with
certain other residents, mainly Germans, in the
putting down of the riot in Shantung which
broke out on the 10th September owing to the
killing of a Chinaman by an European. In
1881 he was made Secretary of the Legation at
Peking. There he remained until 1891, after
which he was appointed German Minister to
Mexico. He married a rich American lady,
and in 1893 returned to Peking as Envoy
Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
He was a good Chinese conversationalist and
spoke the Peking dialect very fluently.

The *Stale*, *Maia* and *Bremen* belong to the
North German Lloyd and the *Phoenix* to the
Hamburg-American Lines. They are all big
boats, the gross tonnage of the *Stale* being
5,267, the *Maia* 10,200, the *Bremen* 10,525, and
the *Phoenix* 6,811.

SAD ACCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR.

A MAN'S HAND BLOWN OFF.

A sad accident took place to a picnic party
at Cipacum on Sunday afternoon. Mr. H. E.
Mackenzie, of the East Point Sugar Works,
lost his right hand. Mr. Mackenzie and
four or five others were in a boat undressed, prepar-
atory to having a swim. Mr. Mackenzie had
a dynamite cartridge in his hand, and he
proposed throwing it into the water so that he
and his friends could dive after the fish stunned
thereby. He accordingly lit the fuse, and the
cartridge exploded prematurely, blew off his
right hand and slightly injured two or three
other men in the boat. The arm was at once
bound up, and Mr. Mackenzie was taken to the
Hospital, where the hand was amputated above
the wrist. We are pleased to say that he is doing
well. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Mackenzie
on account of the calamity which has befallen
him.

SERIOUS LANDSLIP YESTER-
DAY MORNING.

SIX LIVES LOST.

As the result of the recent heavy rains several
land slips have taken place in different parts of
the colony, but fortunately in the majority of
cases they were not attended by any serious
consequences.

Yesterday morning, however, shortly before
five o'clock, an embankment behind some houses
in New Street near the Tung Wa Hospital
gave way and knocked down the back walls of
houses Nos. 4, 6, 8, and 10 New Street, no less
than seven people being buried among the
debris. Nos. 6 and 8 seemed to have suffered most
damage. Acting Deputy Superintendent
McKee and a party of police were soon on the scene
clearing the earth away. Their task was
by no means an easy one and was not free from
danger, as the earth from the embankment
continued to come down while they were engaged
in searching for those who had been buried.

They ultimately rescued a woman from No.
6. One of her legs was broken, and she was
sent to the Hospital. At No. 8 three dead
bodies were recovered later on—two boys (one
eight and the other nine) and a young man 20
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THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS, TUESDAY, JULY 3RD, 1900.

The ships at present at Taku are the *Algeria*,
Aurora, *Barfleur*, *Centurion*, *Endymion*, *Fame*,
Orlando, *Terrible* (British); *Rossia* (Russian);
Hertha, *Kriegerin*, *Augusta*, *Hebe*, *Gefion*;
Novara (U.S.A.); *D'Estre* (French); *Zenta* (Austrian); *Elba* (Italian);
and five Japanese.

It was discovered that the Chinese at
Chefoo mounted two guns and made extensive
entrenchments. The *Hongkong* called at Weihai-
wei and then came straight on to Hongkong,
experiencing very dirty weather. She will pro-
bably go north again on Wednesday with
ammunition and stores.

She passed men-of-war all along from Taku
to Chefoo, and the officers on board were struck
by the fine appearance presented by the Rus-
sians. Some of the British ships appear to
have been practically deadened in men in order
to swell Admiral Seymour's relief column.

Later.

The *Japan Mail* says.—The fact that the
wounded of all nationalities have been sent to
Sasebo for treatment in a Japanese hospital,
evidently appeals strongly to the sentiment of
nationality. Several of the leading Tokyo jour-
nalists allude to the incident in warm language,
heartyly approving the action of the Powers, and
pronouncing that nothing shall be spared to make
the wounded comfortable and to provide for
their skilful treatment. It is widely suspected
that the hospital ships of the Red Cross Society,
the *Hakai* *Maru* and the *Azumi* *Maru*, should
be despatched at once to Taku, so as to take off
any invalids of the allied forces. There will
certainly be many apart from the wounded, in
need of medical assistance, and even if suitable
accommodation were available at Taku, which is
not the case, the climate there at this season
renders the place quite unfit for hospital pur-
poses. This incident constitutes an illustration
of the great value that Japan would possess as
an ally in all Far Eastern disturbances. People
generally think of her dock-yards, her
coastlines, her troops and her ships when they
estimate the assistance she could give, but they
forget her hospitals, though these are a very
important feature.

HOW LONDON VIEWED THE CRISIS LAST
MONTH.

The Chinese Minister in London when ap-
proached, stated that he had not received any
intelligence from China for three days, and was
totally in the dark regarding the accounts
appearing in the Press. Sir Holliday Macaray-
ney, the English Secretary to the Legation,
regarded the rebellion as extremely grave,
but the *Times* had been silent on the subject.
The *Times* arrived yesterday with 400 troops
from Hongkong, having made a quick passage up; her timely arrival
enabled a relieving force to be at once sent to
Taku to assist the rebels. The rebels were
reinforced by the combined forces, Captain
Bayley (H.M.S. *Aurora*) being in command of
the Naval Brigade at that place, but communi-
cation was cut shortly after the town was
occupied, although news got through each way
by runners. Intelligence came through yester-
day that they had had severe fighting in the
place, the rebels repeatedly storming the posi-
tions, and were being bombarded by heavy guns
from war-junks as well as from the land.
Reinforcements were urgently needed, guns
being especially asked for and apparently much
wanted. The *Times* arrived yesterday with 400
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THE CHINESE TARIFFE PROPOSALS.

In discussing the about tariff proposals of Shing and Nish, telegraphed from Peking, Professor R. K. Douglas writes to *The Review of the Week*—

At first sight they would seem to have made some attempt to suggest an equitable arrangement. They propose to leave the export duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, but to double the import duties as well as the transit duties, bringing up the total of these from less than 5 to 15 per cent. *ad valorem*. These duties, they propose, shall be collected at the port of entry. And in return they would agree to abolish the *lai-hin* tax and all other charges on imports. If we were dealing with a Government which was in the habit of keeping its faith, it would be possible to discuss some such terms as these. It is well known that the *lai-hin* very often amounts to 20 and 30 per cent. *ad valorem*, and though transit passes are by treaty legally sufficient to exempt foreign-owned goods from this exaction, the condition which like a man, others which the Chinese have yielded on paper, is in many provinces of the Empire virtually ignored, and is everywhere constantly evaded. If, therefore, the proposal were honest, it meant it would amount to exchanging a 20 to 30 per cent. duty for one of 7½ per cent. and might fairly be entertained. The whole question thus hinges on the *bona fides* of the Chinese Government, and he would be a sanguine man who would venture to affirm that any reliance whatever is to be placed on the word of the Ministers when it is to their interests to forfeit it. The whole history of our relations with China is studded with a long series of broken obligations on her part. No bond has been found strong enough to compel her to act up to her promises, and no treaty has ever been drawn which could fetter her liberty of action. This is freely admitted by the more outspoken of the mandarins, and Li Hung-chang on one occasion stated plainly that "it was natural that China should try to escape by ruse from the fulfilment of concessions exacted from her by *menace*." By "menace" should be read here "treaty at the close of a war," and not the present proposals are related to such a treaty, we may assume on the word of one of the highest officials of the Empire that China will try to escape by ruse from any part of the agreement which she may consider to be hostile to her interests. Even if we were to assume that the present proposals were honestly intended and were honestly to be kept, what guarantees have we that the provincial Viceroy and Governors would act in conformity with the arrangement? One of the most constant pleas put forward by the Tsing-li Yamen when urged to set right a provincial wrong is their insistence upon the rectification in face of the opposition of the provincial authorities. In the present case these potentates will, as one man, be opposed to the abolition of any local taxation. By *lai-hin* they live and more and have their being, and they would be more than human if, without a strenuous struggle and many ruses, they yielded up which is as their life-blood. In these circumstances, it would be worse than folly if, without some very substantial guarantee, we were to entertain the proposals, which, if accepted as they stand, would merely mean the addition of 7½ per cent. import duty to the already existing dues, legal and illegal.

THE COMMAND OF THE CHINA AND CHANNEL SQUADRONS.

The *Naval & Military Record* says:—The commands of the Channel and China squadrons will fall vacant next December, and it is to be speculated as to what it has been generally assumed that Sir C. E. Donville will go to command the Channel. It has been generally

assumed that Sir C. E. Donville will go to command the Channel.

General Buller reports that the enemy's

treatment of private property in Natal has been

GENERAL NEWS.

THE SIAM DINNER IN LONDON.

London, 10th June.

The Siam Dinner was given this evening.

Mr. Rivett Carnac was in the chair, and H. H. Prince Bonya, Sir William Robinson, Sir Frederick Verney, and many other representative men were present.

Sir William Robinson, in giving the toast of

The King of Siam, dwelt upon His Majesty's

English sympathies, and regretted the unavoidable absence of the Crown Prince, owing to illness, but rejoiced at the presence of Prince Bonya. He hoped Siam and Great Britain

would ever be on the friendliest terms.

Sir Alfred Lyall proposed prosperity to Siam,

which he said, was of the greatest importance to

Great Britain. Siam had ever held firmly to her

British alliance. Sir Alfred enlarged the re-

form earnestly pursued by the King, and said

Great Britain and Siam were fellow workers in

improving the Southern States of Asia.

Prince Bonya thanked Sir Alfred on behalf

of the King and the Government.

Sir Frederick Verney proposed the guests

and referred to the sympathy between Great

Britain and Japan and Siam. He dwelt upon

the constant interest shown by the Indian

Government and Lord Curzon in the prosperity

of Siam. Great Britain, he said, was ever

ready to show practical sympathy with Siam.

The Japanese Chargé d'Affaires warmly ac-

knowledged the progress made by Siam.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

Calcutta, 15th June.

The Famine total now on Relief is £100,000

an increase of nearly a quarter of a million

during the week. The increases are:—Bombay

20,000, Hyderabad 24,000, Central Provinces

20,000, Punjab 14,000. The decreases:

Rajputana 37,000, and Bombay Native States

22,000.

THE JAPANESE NAVY.

The *Times* Tokyo correspondent writes in

terms of unstinted admiration of the Japanese

fleet at the late naval manoeuvres and of

Japanese naval history generally. He says:

That Japan can now muster such a powerful

naval force is the most striking fact suggested

by these manoeuvres. But, after all, that is only

a question of money and time. What is much

more remarkable is the ability displayed by the

Japanese in handling vessels at sea. Since their

national navy began to be formed 30 years ago,

they have not lost a single ship owing to faulty

seamanship. One vessel, a cruiser built in France

disappeared on her way out from Europe while still

in the hands of the French, and one, a gun-

boat, sank by collision with a foreign steamer

in circumstances that did not convict the

Japanese of any fault. With these excep-

tions there has been complete immunity from

serious accident, a remarkable record when

we remember that, during more than

two centuries immediately anterior to the

Meiji era the law interdicted the construction

of sea-going ships, and Japanese sailors could

not even go to sea.

THE RELIEF OF MAYHEEING.—Patriotism

finds expression in many and varied ways, not

the least pleasant of which is the thought taken

by all sorts and conditions of people at home for

the men at the front. Two fifty guineas

each have just been presented by the Military

Trust of May, 1899, (Lancashire) for Military

Services in commemoration of the Relief. These

guineas have already been shipped to South Africa.

1899.

THE CHINESE TARIFFE PROPOSALS.

London, 13th June.

The Boer accounts of the raid at Roodeval

stores, including 3,000 suits of clothing. Being

unable to carry them away they burned them.

President Steyn was watching the struggle

from the neighbourhood of Reiters.

CAPTURE OF DEDSBURGH.—DE WET'S CLEVER

MANEUVERS.

London, 17th June.

Commandant De Wet's clever manœuvres at

Roodeval are highly praised. He beguiled Lord

Botha from the railway, which he seized,

capturing two Companies—one of Yeomanry

and one of Imperial—of whom two men escaped

back to Kroonstad. Commandant De Wet,

learning that Lord Botha had ordered six

Companies of the Derbyshires up as reinforce-

ments, awaited their arrival, carefully concealed,

and as soon as they arrived were detained,

shelled them with big guns. The Derby-

shires and the gunners were compelled to surren-

der.

LORD ROBERTS PRAISES THE C.I.V.

Lord Roberts in describing the recent attack

on Commandant Botha's forces praises the share

taken in the fighting on the day by the City

Imperial Volunteers. Of that Regiment, Lieut.

Alf and one Private were killed and 25 wounded.

The Guards and French's Cavalry only lost one

killed each.

THE DESIRE OF PRESIDENT KRUGER.

President Kruger, it is reported, desires to go

to Delagoa Bay, but the Burghers prevent him

from doing so, and also from surrendering. But

President Steyn remains stubborn.

BOER ATTACK ON BALWY PIONEERS.

The Boers yesterday attacked the Railway

Pioneers, whilst working at the Zand River,

but were repulsed with a few casualties. Major

Seymour being killed.

CROMIE'S NEPHEW SURRENDERS ON THE

FALL OF PRETORIA.

General Cromie's nephew, at Klerksdorp, yielded

to Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell imme-

diately he heard of the fall of Pretoria, and his example was numerously followed.

QUICK AND SPLENDID STRATEGY OF THE

MOUNTED INFANTRY.

HONGKONG, 26th June, 1900.

BADEN-POWELL'S LATEST SCOOP.

Calcutta, 18th June.

An Indian *Daily News* cable from its

Correspondent in London, dated June 18th, de-

scribes the route taken by General Botha from

his position outside Pretoria.

Lord Roberts speaks in the highest terms of

the part by the Mounted Infantry, who

completely surprised and outflanked the enemy.

GENERAL NEWS.

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TRANS-

PAYABLE.

By Order.

A SHELTON HOOPE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 16th June, 1900.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TRANS-

PAYABLE.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th March, 1900.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ELE-

HONGKONG
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUCTIONEERS, &c.

PAUL BREWITT.
2, Zethus Street. Auctioneer, Appraiser
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Hongkong, 15th September, 1899.HONGKONG
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THE TALE OF AVERAGES.

Between the showers there has been plenty of
time to gossip of the batting and the bowling
averages, and the splendid start Lancashire
have made in the County Championship tourna-
ment. Not very far have we to travel down
the list of leading batsmen before we discover
many famous names at present amongst the
missing. In all probability the compilers of
these more or less interesting tables of statistics
will have a different tale to tell in the course
of the next few weeks, for batsmen of the class
of Ranjitsinhji, "Bobby" Abel, Shropshire
the like.WASSIYAMU ASSONIOLI.
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Tailors, Gentlemen's Outfitters, Hatters,
Hosiery and Drapers. Chinese Silk of
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"The Jockey" Cigars.

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H. PRICE & CO.,
12, Queen's Road
and Calle Anloague, Manila.

AMERICAN SYSTEM

OF

DENTISTRY

AT
No. 39, Queen's Road Central.

CHADWICK KEW

(late of Poole & Nore).

Hongkong, 15th September, 1899.

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SPORT AND ANECDOTE.

BY AN OLD FOGY.

FROM THE SHELTER OF THE PAVILION.

Just before the end of the football season arrived we had a spell of phenomenal April weather. The mercury danced up joyously to summer heat, and on every humid murrain of complaint were heard as to the incongruity of playing a winter pastime under such conditions.

May—yes, the merrie month of May—has altered all that; extra thick woollen garments have

proved most acceptable to our cricketers, and extra wraps and overcoats have been donned with alacrity by those favoured with the shelter of the pavilion. Of course, one likes to clamber to the roof or into the garden seats in front of these always picturesque structures when the sun shines through the livelong day, and the gentle breezes fan our cheeks pleasantly. We need little of the shelter of the pavilion when Queen's weather is with us. But when the great, sombre, rain-charged clouds come sweep along in front of a chill east wind that almost sets one's teeth on edge, then it is that the big windows are closed, the doors swing to, and a corner, free as possible from draughts, selected to watch them at play outside. Then it is that from cosy nooks one listens respectfully to the oraculars of the Ancient One, who prattles learnedly about Fuller's Pitch, William Clarke, and the rest of that glorious old school—cricketers, my boy, who were cricketers!—Amid the doings of the Lancashire team are passed in review and one and all express unfeigned pleasure that little Johnny Briggs has been spared to English cricket. Then comes gossip in its turn upon the astonishing batting feats of Tom Hayward, which at once institutes comparisons, and forthwith a dozen or more prominent cricketers find champions. R. E. Foster, who earned undying fame last season by assisting (with his brother W. L.) to make a new cricket record, has been doing wonderful things for Oxford University—thirteen scores of over 100 in succession is a remarkable feat in these days—and the mention of the captain of the Dark Blues quite naturally brings to mind the ill-luck of his soldier brother in South Africa, just now stricken down with fever at Bloemfontein.

THE COMING RACE.

There are few more joyful sounds to the jaded watcher of football than the merry, musical clang of the pavilion bell calling the men out to play on the opening day of the county cricket season. From that moment henceforth until the golden harvest has been garnered in the declining days of August, and sometimes even a bit later than that, every one's thoughts are turned to the coming of the great summer, when the cricketing world is in full swing, and the scores or takes the wickets. But very year marks the falling out of the rank and file, every season the settling of some star. Thankful should we be, then, that now ones arise to fill the void, that our prestige in future encounters is in the hands of capable representatives. Few more capable are there than Perrin, the stalwart champion of Essex. Unlike the gallant Major Poore, who burst upon us with meteoric brilliance, Perrin has climbed the ladder of fame gradually, and to-day stands on one of its topmost rungs. From the tall, slender wisp of a youth who a few seasons ago won his way into the team by sheer merit, he has filled out into splendid proportions, and at once arrests the eye as a stately, well-trained athlete. Possibly his association with another elegant batsman—A. P. Lucas—may have had something to do with developing a style that will cause many a bowler to have a high before the bat. Perrin has climbed the ladder of fame gradually, and to-day stands on one of its topmost rungs. From the tall, slender wisp of a youth who a few seasons ago won his way into the team by sheer merit, he has filled out into splendid proportions, and at once arrests the eye as a stately, well-trained athlete. Possibly his association with another elegant batsman—A. P. Lucas—may have had something to do with developing a style that will cause many a bowler to have a high before the bat. Perrin has climbed the ladder of fame gradually, and to-day stands on one of its topmost rungs. 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